

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 14, 2008. Claims 27-35 are presented for examination, of which Claims 27, 31 and 35 are in independent form. Claims 27, 28, 31, 32 and 35 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement and a corresponding Form PTO-1449 was filed on January 30, 2004, as evidenced by the Private Pair printout from the Patent and Trademark website, a copy of which is attached hereto. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the references cited thereon were considered.

A Claim To Priority for this application were filed on January 30, 2004, as evidenced by the Private Pair printout from the Patent and Trademark website, a copy of which is attached hereto. Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copy in the parent application.

Claims 27-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,548,722 (Jalalian et al.).

As shown above, Applicant has amended independent Claims 27, 31 and 35 in terms that more clearly define what he regards as his invention. Applicant submits that these amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 27 is directed to an information processing apparatus including: (1) display means for displaying a first device and a second device; (2) indication means for indicating the

first device and the second device displayed by the display means so as to execute a combined image formation process by the indicated first and second devices; (3) specifying means for specifying an image formation process to be executed by a set of the first device and the second device indicated by the indication means; and (4) obtaining means for obtaining log information showing the number of executions of the image formation process specified by the specifying means.

Jalalian relates to service-category cache (SCC) for presenting to a user on a graphical user interface (GUI) a list of service categories (i.e., laser printing, file-serving and key-serving) that are available to the user. When the user chooses a category, a collection of available devices satisfying the service category is displayed. Jalalian discusses selecting a printer from a plurality of printers on a GUI. However, Applicant has found nothing in Jalalian that would teach or suggest “indication means for indicating the first device and the second device displayed by said display means so as to execute a combined image formation process by the indicated first and second devices” or “obtaining means for obtaining log information showing the number of executions of the image formation process specified by said specifying means,” as recited in Claim 27.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 27 is not anticipated by Jalalian.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant’s opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 27.

Independent Claims 31 and 35 are method and storage medium claims, respectively, corresponding to apparatus Claim 27, and are believed to be patentable over Jalalian

for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 27.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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10/767,626

Data processing apparatus, data processing method, and storage
medium storing computer-readable program

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Available Documents

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